



Salmon-Challis National Forest

Fire Update

Sunday, September 18, 2011



Contact Fire Information: 208.756.5177

OVERVIEW: Weather forecast today is for mostly cloudy skies with a slight chance of rain. Winds are expected to increase on Monday while temperatures remain cool.

A reduced area closure was enacted around the Salt Fire Friday morning. Areas west of Panther Creek Road are now open to the public. In addition, the Lemhi County Sheriff has removed the Stage 1 evacuation alert for the Panther Creek drainage. The area closures around the Saddle Complex, Ship Island and Alpine, and Velvet Fires are still in effect.

The **Velvet Fire** has not increased in size from 2,850 acres and has no resources currently assigned. The 65 acre **Porter Fire** has been contained and firefighters are no longer on the scene. It burned a total of 65 acres since lightning ignited it on September 12th.

SALT FIRE: Wilde's Type 2 Team assumed command of the fire as of 6 o'clock this morning. There is still some heat on the perimeter in the Salt Creek drainage. Work continues on rehabilitating existing firelines on the eastern side of the fire. Today crews will relocate the heli-base to the Salmon airport.

Resources: 4 Crews; 2 Helicopters; 8 Engines; 1 Dozer; 5 Water Tenders; 315 Total Personnel
Start Date: 25 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 20,418 acres

SADDLE COMPLEX: No significant fire activity was seen on Saturday as a result of the moisture received with the cold front. Major actions taken were removing potentially hazardous trees along Horse Creek Road. One crew has been released from the fire. Operations at the Gattin Ranch are likely to begin demobilization today.

Resources: 2 Crews; 2 Engines; 65 Total Personnel
Start Date: 18 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 32,365 acres (Idaho: 16,709)

SHIP ISLAND FIRE: Recent rains have considerably slowed fire activity. The crew members monitoring the fire from Stoddard Lookout will be leaving today. The remaining crew members have completed floating the Middle Fork of the Salmon River and will be off of the river today. The **Alpine Fire** remains at 20 acres.

Resources: 1 Crew; 12 Total Personnel
Start Date: 25 August **Cause:** Lightning **Size:** 2,301 acres

To learn more about how to better prepare your home to withstand a wildfire, go to www.idahofirewise.org.
For more information on closures and fires on the Salmon-Challis National Forest, visit www.inciweb.org/unit/46.